

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A computer based method for facilitating the placement of an order for an item and for displaying transactional information to a user regarding the buying and selling of items in a system where orders comprise a bid type or an offer type, and an order is generated for a quantity of the item at a specific value, the method comprising:

displaying a plurality of bid indicators, each corresponding to at least one bid for a quantity of the item, each bid indicator at a location along a first scaled axis of values corresponding to a value associated with the at least one bid;

displaying a plurality of offer indicators, each corresponding to at least one offer for a quantity of the item, each offer indicator at a location along the first scaled axis of values corresponding to a value associated with the at least one offer;

displaying an order icon associated with an order by the user for a particular quantity of the item; and

in response to a user initiated command, moving the order icon to a location associated with a value along the first scaled axis of values.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the order icon is adjustable by the user to reflect the quantity of the order.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

receiving a request for an order responsive to a user action specifying a quantity of the item and value for the order.

5. – 9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

displaying the order icon placed by the user with a first visual characteristic; and
displaying the bid and offer indicators corresponding to orders placed by other
users with a second visual characteristic.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
displaying each of the plurality of bid and offer indicators having an edge which
is angled toward the first scaled axis of values.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
receiving market information representing a new order to buy a quantity of the
item for a specified value;
in response to the received market information, generating a bid indicator whose
size corresponds to the quantity of the item bid for; and
placing the bid indicator at a location along the first scaled axis of values
corresponding to the specified value of the bid.

13.-15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
receiving market information representing a new order to sell a quantity of the
item for a specified value;
in response to the received market information, generating an offer indicator
whose size corresponds to the quantity of the item for which the offer is made; and
placing the offer indicator at a location along the first scaled axis of values
corresponding to the specified value of the offer.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

generating a second axis, perpendicular to the first scaled axis of values,
representing time;
generating a third axis, perpendicular to the second axis, representing value; and
displaying a historical chart representing values of the item responsive to time and
value with respect to the second and third axes.

Claims 19 - 27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
displaying a plurality of order tokens having different values;
receiving a selection for an order token; and
moving the order token to a user specified location with respect to the first scaled
axis of values which corresponds to the desired value;
thereby enabling placing of the order in accordance with the desired value.

29 - 60. (Canceled)

61. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising visually
distinguishing bid indicators from offer indicators.

62. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising visually
distinguishing the order icon from the plurality of bid and offer indicators.

63. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising displaying a
marker representing a value of interest at a location associated with a value on the first
scaled axis of values.

64. (Previously presented) The method of claim 63 wherein the location at which the
marker is displayed is updated dynamically.

65. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the user initiated command comprises selecting the order icon using a pointer device and dragging the order icon to the location.
66. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising modifying the order icon based on a transaction.
67. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the size of the order icon is associated with the quantity of the order.
68. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the values on the first scaled axis of values represent price.
69. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the item comprises a commodity.
70. (Previously presented) The method of claim 63 wherein the marker comprises a line.
71. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the values on the first scaled axis of values represent a qualitative measure other than price.
72. (Previously presented) The method of claim 71 wherein the qualitative measure represents a derivative of price.
73. (Previously presented) The method of claim 72 wherein the derivative of price is an interest rate, a bond cost, an implied interest rate, or implied volatility of the item.
74. (Previously presented) The method of claim 71 wherein the qualitative measure represents any metric by which an item can be valued.

75. (Previously presented) The method of claim 71 wherein different qualitative measures can be chosen by the user.
76. (Previously presented) The method of claim 71 further comprising receiving a command to select a new qualitative measure and updating the display of the plurality of bid indicators and the plurality of offer indicators to locations along the first scaled axis of values corresponding to values associated with the new qualitative measure.
77. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the bid indicator displays the quantity of the item associated with the bid and the offer indicator displays the quantity of the item associated with the offer.
78. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the order icon displays the quantity of the order placed by the user.
79. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising displaying contextual data along with the plurality of bid and offer indicators.
80. (Previously presented) The method of claim 79 wherein the contextual data is displayed as a historical chart along the first scaled axis of values.
81. (Previously presented) The method of claim 79 wherein the contextual data is displayed as a volume graph.
82. (Previously presented) The method of claim 79 wherein the contextual data indicates the high and low values of the item for a period of time.
83. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the first scaled axis is graduated in intervals such that each interval represents a particular value.

84. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of displaying the values along the first scaled axis of values.

85. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the each of plurality of bid and offer indicators are graphically represented to the user as icons.

86. (Previously presented) A computer readable medium having program code recorded thereon for execution on a computer for displaying transactional information to a user regarding the buying and selling of items in a system where orders comprise a bid type or an offer type, and an order is generated for a quantity of an item at a specific value, the method comprising:

- a first program code for displaying a plurality of bid indicators, each corresponding to at least one bid for a quantity of the item, each bid indicator at a location along a first scaled axis of values corresponding to a value associated with the at least one bid;

- a second program code for displaying a plurality of offer indicators, each corresponding to at least one offer for a quantity of the item, each offer indicator at a location along the first scaled axis of values corresponding to a value associated with the at least one offer;

- a third program code for displaying an order icon associated with an order by the user for a particular quantity of the item; and

- a fourth program code for, in response to a user initiated command, moving the order icon to a location associated with a value along the first scaled axis of values.

87. (Previously presented) A computer based method for displaying transactional information to a user regarding the buying and selling of items in a system where orders comprise a bid type or an offer type, and an order is generated for a quantity of the item at a specific value, the method comprising:

displaying a plurality of bid indicators, each corresponding to at least one bid for a quantity of the item;

displaying a plurality of offer indicators, each corresponding to at least one offer for a quantity of the item;

wherein the plurality of bid indicators and the plurality of offer indicators are displayed at locations corresponding to values along a scaled axis such that the values represent a derivative of price for the item.

88. (Previously presented) The method of claim 72 wherein the derivative of price is an interest rate, a bond cost, an implied interest rate, or implied volatility of the item.

89. (Previously presented) The method of claim 87 wherein the derivative of price is customizable.

90. (Previously presented) A computer based method for facilitating the placement of an order for an item and for displaying transactional information to a user regarding the buying and selling of items in a system where orders comprise a bid type or an offer type, and an order is generated for a quantity of the item at a specific value, the method comprising:

displaying a plurality of bid indicators, each corresponding to at least one bid for a quantity of the item, each bid indicator at a location along a first scaled axis of values corresponding to a value associated with the at least one bid; and

displaying a plurality of offer indicators, each corresponding to at least one offer for a quantity of the item, each offer indicator at a location along the first scaled axis of values corresponding to a value associated with the at least one offer;

displaying an order token associated with at least one preset order parameter; and
in response to a user initiated command, moving the order token to a location associated with a desired value along the first scaled axis of values.

91. (Previously presented) The method of claim 90 wherein the user initiated command comprises dragging the order token to the location.
92. (Previously presented) The method of claim 90 wherein the at least one preset order parameter comprises a quantity for an order to be sent.
93. (Previously presented) The method of claim 90 wherein the at least one preset order parameter comprises a bid type or an offer type.
94. (Previously presented) The method of claim 90 wherein the order token represents an order to be sent, wherein the order to be sent would have order parameters equal to the at least one preset order parameter of the order token and a value equal to the desired value associated with the location the order token was moved to.
95. (Previously presented) The method of claim 90 wherein an order having order parameters equal to the at least one preset order parameter of the order token and a value equal to the desired value is sent to a transaction server.
96. (Previously presented) The method of claim 95 wherein, in response to being sent, the displayed order token becomes an order icon representing the user's own order for the item.
97. (Previously presented) The method of claim 90 wherein the size of the order token is adjustable by the user to reflect the quantity of the order to be sent.
98. (Previously presented) The method of claim 90 wherein the order token is associated with a plurality of preset order parameters.